

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 9/22/03
Approved 10/27/03

I. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Lloyd Sullivan at 7 p.m. There were present Jenifer Landman, Selectmen, Michael Pardue, Town Administrator and NormaJean Fowler, Recording Secretary.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Recreation Coordinator Candidate

Brenda introduced Michael Hastings, the Town's new Recreation Coordinator and spoke of his experience and background. Ms. Landman asked Brenda who Mr. Hastings had interviewed with and when he would be available to start. Brenda informed the BoS that Mr. Hasting had interviewed with both her and Mike Pardue and that he would be available to start on Monday, September 29, 2003. Mr. Pardue informed the BoS that Michael competed with a number of people for the position and that Michael's background and experience most closely matched the requirements of the position. He also stated that a Conditional Offer had been made and the background check had been done. Both Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Landman welcomed Mr. Hasting aboard.

B. Winterberry Lane-Traffic Enforcement- Chief Page

Mr. Sullivan stated that the BoS had received many letters, e-mails and phone calls from residents of Winterberry Lane regarding a problem with vehicles speeding. The residents are asking the BoS to establish a lower speed limit on Winterberry Lane and to accept Winterberry Lane as a Town-owned roadway. Chief Page addressed the BoS and explained that after speaking with the Highway Agent he was advised that Winterberry Lane had not yet been accepted by the Town, and that under these circumstances, the BoS would not have the authority to approve a lower speed limit. He stated that the Police Department was enforcing the 30 M.P.H. limit and that motorists going 36 M.P.H. and above would be stopped and issued warnings or citations. If the limit was lowered to 25 M.P.H. then the Police Department could stop motorists going 30-32 m.p.h. It was his recommendation that the BoS have the Planning Board check into having the contractor come into compliance so that the Town could accept the roadway. He hasn't done any research on this however. Mr. Sullivan stated that the BoS had received a letter regarding the Town taking over the road.

Mr. Strout told the BoS that there has been ongoing negotiation with Mr. Kennedy. The Town Engineer needs to do a final inspection and report to the Planning Board. Ms. Landman asked about the drainage problem on this road and Mr. Sullivan stated that this was a result of a homeowner doing revisions to his property and not due to any defect in the existing drainage system.

Ms. Landman questioned whether the Town still had a bond on this road. Mr. Strout stated that he believed that the bond had run out three years ago. Mr. Sullivan questioned if the bond was irrevocable and asked Mr. Pardue to get in touch with Phil Wilson regarding this.

C. Policy Regarding Alcoholic Beverages on Town Owned Property

Mr. Sullivan discussed a request to allow a BYOB outing on Town property. Ms. Landman agreed with Mr. Sullivan that this should not be allowed because it opens up the Town to liability issues. Ms. Landman made a motion that the Town not allow any consumption of alcohol or open containers of alcohol on Town property. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

VOTED: That the Town not allow any consumption of alcohol or open containers of alcohol on Town property. 2-0

D. Estuary Project Representative

Ms. Landman discussed the request from a couple of months ago that the BoS appoint a representative to the estuary project. At that time the BoS requested that the Conservation Commission submit names but they have not submitted any names. She made a motion that the BoS appoint Shep Croner to be the representative to the estuary project. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

VOTED: To appoint Shep Kroner to be the representative to the estuary project.
2-0

E. Salt Marsh Pooling

Ms. Landman discussed a large pool of stagnant salt water in the Little River Marsh area. She stated that there was some money left over from the salt restoration fund and suggested that the area be treated and that it might help the mosquito problem.

Dr. Arena addressed the BoS and stated that his property abuts that area and that there are lots of pools in the area that serve a purpose. He stated that no one from the Town has ever come out to spray or larvicide near Little River Marsh. Ms. Landman stated that Mike Morrison went out to that area to investigate and suggested that Dr. Arena contact Chuck Gordon or Chris regarding Mr. Morrison investigating the area for trenching. Mr. Sullivan stated that he would have Mike Morrison contact Dr. Arena directly.

F. Town Report Cover Ideas

Ms. Landman discussed the need for artwork for the Town Report cover. She questioned what the BoS wanted to do regarding this. She suggested that the BoS solicit local artists and photographers for submissions. Mr. Sullivan agreed that this was a good suggestion.

G. Request of Historical Society to Provide Photograph for Heritage Commission Report Page

Ms. Landman suggested that the Historical Society provide an old picture to submit for the Town Report to fill up the other ½ page being utilized by the Historical Commission.

H. Procedures for Video Taping Meetings.

Mr. Sullivan addressed the issue of his prior request that all future meetings be videotaped. He stated that he was withdrawing his request. Ms. Landman inquired as to if he was withdrawing his request that all meetings in which he was in attendance be videotaped or just the BoS meetings. Mr. Sullivan stated that he was withdrawing his request for all meetings. Ms. Landman stated that she her concern with videotaping meetings was that under RSA:91A the tapes would have to be made available to the public and that the Town would have to bear the cost of duplication of them.

I. Status of Proposed Purchase of Video Equipment

This issue was removed from discussion because of Mr. Sullivan's withdrawal of his request that all future meetings be video taped.

J. Questions and Comments Related to the Above Topic Areas

None.

Mr. Sullivan discussed correspondence from Gail Walker of the New Hampshire Business Association. The New Hampshire Business Association wants to donate two large "Welcome to North Hampton" signs. One of the signs would replace the existing sign and the existing sign would be moved to Exeter Road. He stated that the bus company where the current sign is located has given permission to move the sign. He stated that this was informational only and that the New Hampshire Business Association would be making a formal presentation to the BoS at a later date.

Ms. Landman stated that she believed that it was a previous vote that all signs be similar to the sign created by the young man that created the existing sign. Mr. Sullivan said he could find no reference to this.

Ms. Landman asked if they were donating three signs, one for the South end of Rt. 1, one for the North end of Rt. 1 and one for Exeter Road, what materials would be used and what size the signs would be. She also stated that the BoS hasn't voted on moving the sign. Mr. Sullivan stated that it would be two signs but that he didn't have specifics. He stated that it had to go before the Planning Board and the Historical Society.

III. Administration/Business

Mr. Sullivan read a Letter of Resignation from Henry Mixter. Mr. Mixter has formally resigned his position with the various boards and committees he is on. Mr. Sullivan informed the audience that there would be a retirement dinner for Mr. Mixter on October 23, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. at Abercrombie and Finch and that the tickets would be \$20.00. He hopes to have many people there.

A. Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Pardue made his report to the Board. Issues discussed were as follows:

1. The next session of the Hostile Work Environment, Harassment and Sexual Harassment training seminar will be September 25, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the North Hampton Library.
2. The increase in the Veteran's Exemption should be coordinated with the June 2004 tax billing.
3. The hiring process for the Police Lieutenant is continuing. The professional panel interview has been completed and Chief Page is conducting the final candidate interview.
4. Mr. Pardue asked the BoS for input on the process to be used to fill the vacancy on the BoS.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he had no problem with giving Mike Pardue a list of his candidates to replace Lloyd Sullivan on the BoS and he felt that Ms. Landman should give her list to Mike and Mike could review the lists to determine matches from the list and those matches could be nominated at the next meeting.

Ms. Landman stated that she thought that at a previous meeting that all candidates from both lists would be considered. She feels that there may be a candidate on Mr. Sullivan's list that didn't occur to her at the time she made her list, and felt that it would be unfair to exclude that person just because the name didn't match her list. She feels that all names should be considered and their attributes discussed and then a vote for finalists be taken. She feels that all names should be given equal consideration, not just the names that match.

Mr. Sullivan suggested that the BoS have a public meeting in which Mr. Pardue could read the names on the combined lists and let the BoS know if there was a match or not. Ms. Landman questioned what procedures would be taken if there were no matches and Mr. Sullivan stated that he was confident that there would be at least one match. Mr. Sullivan agreed that a public meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. to reveal the names on the lists and if there were no matches then everyone on both lists would be considered. Ms. Landman agreed to this suggestion.

B. Correspondence

Correspondence from Charles Gordon to StoneHill Environmental Inc. was reviewed. This correspondence relating to the proposed wireless communication tower on property owned by the Lamprey family. The concern is the visible impact the tower will have to the residents in the Village District of Little Boar's Head. Mr. Gordon's is asking StoneHill Environmental to conduct another balloon test in mid November and asks that the date of such test be published at least seven days in advance so the residents will be aware of it. He is also asking that a larger diameter balloon be used.

Mr. Sullivan felt that the BoS should do more research into this issue. Ms. Landman questioned if there was an ordinance regarding using existing sites that would not be visible to the residents.

A letter from Aquarion informing the BoS that Charles V. Firlotte has been appointed President and CEO was reviewed.

Ms. Landman inquired as to the status of the Aquarion wells going on line. Mr. Sullivan stated that they had already received approval. Ms. Landman stated that in the past Aquarion has had to go before the Planning Board and provide information as to the impact on area wells. She asked how they had gotten approval without going before the Planning Board. Mr. Pardue informed her that DES had given the approval.

C. Approval of Minutes

i. September 8, 2003 Open Session

Ms. Landman made a motion to accept the minutes of September 8, 2003 Open Session as amended. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

VOTED: To accept both the Open Session minutes as amended for September 8, 2003. 2-0

D. Contract Services Agreement

The contract for Howard Promer was reviewed and signed off on.

E. Veteran's Exemption

One Veteran's Exemption was signed.

F. Application to Rockingham County Nursing Home

This application was signed.

G. Land Use Change Tax- Map 012 Lot 035

A memo from Howard Promer addressing the confusion as to why two of the previously submitted requests showed the same map and lot number. In the memo Mr. Promer explained that the land in question was consolidated in 2002 as part of a subdivision that created five new lots. As the new lots were sold off the land use change taxes were imposed in compliance with the statute whenever there were less than ten contiguous acres owned.

H. Oath of Offices to Heritage Commission

The following Oaths of Office were signed:

Carolyn Brooks to full Member of the Heritage Commission.
Ruth Donais as Alternate to the Heritage Commission.

I. Oath of Office to Conservation Commission

The Oath of Office appointing Dan Twombly to the Conservation Commission was signed.

J. Payroll

Payroll was reviewed and signed.

K. Manifest

The manifest was signed.

IV. Adjournment

Ms. Landman made a motion to adjourn the public session and to move into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a, d, e) for discussion of personnel matters, acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property and legal matters. Mr. Sullivan seconded.

VOTED: To adjourn the public session and to move into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a, d, e) for discussion of personnel matters, acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property and legal matters at 8:20 p.m.
2-0

Respectfully Submitted,

NormaJean Fowler
Recording Secretary